

ABSTRACT

A stage assembly (220) for moving and positioning a device (200) includes a stage base (202), a stage (206), a stage mover assembly (204), and a reaction assembly (226). The stage mover assembly (204) moves the stage (206) relative to the stage base (202). The reaction assembly (226) is coupled to the stage mover assembly (204). The reaction assembly (226) reduces the reaction forces created by the stage mover assembly (204) that are transferred to the stage base (202). In one embodiment, the reaction assembly (226) includes a pair of masses (250A), (250B) and a connector assembly (236) that connects the masses (250A), (250B) together, allows the masses to move independently along a first axis, and causes the masses (250A), (250B) to move concurrently along a second axis.

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